District 8 Community Image Grant

ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Katy Sorenson in conjunction with the Office of Community Image is pleased to announce the 2006 Community Image grant program. Small grants of up to \$3000 will be available to non-profit organizations, civic groups and other qualifying service clubs for community improvement projects to be completed in District 8. Projects should reflect an effort to beautify our community and serve the public. This grant program is designed to help the development of non profit organizations as they work to make positive changes in our community.

For most types of projects, applicants may request up to \$500 in funding with no obligation to match the grant amount. For funding in excess of \$500, applicants will be required to provide a cash or inkind match to the amount awarded. The cash or in-kind match must equal at least 25% of the total amount awarded by the county. With an in-kind match, applicants can match the county grant funds with outside donations, supplies, etc., in lieu of cash.

Those interested in applying for a Community Image Improvement grant should review all of the attached information, fill out an application, attach all necessary documentation, and follow the required steps. This is an ongoing grant program; groups are eligible to apply at any time.

FACTS

GRANT PURPOSE

The purpose of this grant is to assist non-profit organizations taking on community improvement projects in District 8. The mission of the office of Community Image and the goal and intent of this grant is to fund projects that will benefit the public, beautify our neighborhoods, and allow non –profits to expand on their potential to benefit the community.

GRANT MATCH / COST SHARE

To receive funding in excess of \$500, applicants must be able to match the grant money with at least 25% of the grant total. For example, if the total grant funding awarded is \$1000, the groups must provide at least an additional \$250 of their own funds either in cash or donations. In-kind match resources include, but aren't limited to the following:

- Supplies
- Donations of material
- Donations of food for volunteers
- Advertising for the project

Applicants must be able to provide proof of the costs of materials and supplies to count the amount toward their match contribution.

The following is a list of possible projects and applicants and the amount of funding they would be eligible for. Please note that these are only broad examples of possible projects.

		Amount Available With		
Applicant	Project Type	No Match	Cash Match	In-Kind Match
Homeowners Assoc.	Paint-Out	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Clean-Up	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Landscaping	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Maintenance	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
Community Group	Paint-Out	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Clean-Up	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Landscaping	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
	Maintenance	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	\$501-\$3000
Individuals / Business	Paint-Out	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	N/A
	Clean-Up	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	N/A
	Landscaping	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	N/A
	Maintenance	Up to \$500	\$501-\$3000	N/A

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Potential applicants will be non-profit organizations, groups, or clubs of Miami-Dade County that are seeking funding assistance for community improvement projects in District 8. Applicants must be incorporated and provide a federal tax ID number. Applicants must be willing to enter into a contractual grant agreement and must meet all further requirements outlined in the application. Applicants must also be able to meet the grant match/cost sharing requirements mentioned above.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Proposed projects must be in District 8 and serve the general purpose of community improvement. Projects must be able to be successfully completed with funds available to the organization through this grant and their own resources. Grant funds should not be used to begin projects that can not realistically be completed. Although projects do not necessarily have to be done on public property, they must be done in an area that is open to and serves the public. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Painting
- Clean-Ups
- Landscaping
- Maintenance

FUNDING SOURCE

Matching grant funds for this program come from District 8 County Commissioner and the Office of Community Image.

GRANT AMOUNTS

Each applying group may request up to \$3000. <u>Applicants should also note that funding will be reimbursed when the project is completed, it will not be available in a lump sum once the application is approved.</u> No funds expended prior to Miami-Dade County's formal issuance of a "notice to proceed" will be eligible for reimbursement.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES

The following are examples of items that are eligible for funding*

- paint
- tools
- brushes
- work gloves
- plants
- garbage bags/cleaning supplies
- food for volunteers
- necessary supplies

^{*} All eligible costs are at the discretion of the county and the Office of Community Image

PAYMENT OF GRANT FUNDS

Grant funds are paid on a reimbursable basis once the project is complete.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Project applications are reviewed by the office of Community Image. Evaluation criteria include but are not limited to:

- basic eligibility requirements
- clarity of application
- community value
- community support
- amount of people that will benefit
- environmental value
- cost sharing ability

GRANT SCHEDULE AND DEADLINES

The District 8 Community Image Grant program is ongoing. Applicants should feel free to apply at any time, but funding is limited and grants will only be issued while it is available. Please feel free to contact our District Office in South Dade with questions at 305-378-6677.